

LISTING OF CLAIMS

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1. (cancelled)

2. (currently amended) The scabbard as defined in claim 18 wherein the carrier includes upper and lower generally C-shaped housing portions supporting said rollers and having laterally opposed ends defining said entry opening to permit a baton of a predetermined diameter range to be inserted laterally into said entry opening.

3. (currently amended) The scabbard of claim 2 wherein said upper and lower frame portions are disposed in parallel spaced relation, said ~~over-center latching mechanism~~ means sets of rollers being supported by and between said frame portions.

4. (currently amended) The scabbard of claim 18 wherein said ~~over-center latching mechanism~~ means ~~comprises two roller assemblies, each roller assembly further including a front roller and a rear roller, each roller assembly configured to pivot relative to the carrier about a pivotal axis such that as a baton is first inserted into the scabbard, the roller assemblies pivot causing the front rollers to move apart and the rear rollers to move toward each other, and as the baton is further inserted into the carrier and contacts the rear rollers, the roller assemblies snap into place against the baton such that the front and rear rollers encompass a portion of the baton and urge the baton against the stop surface~~ friction member.

5. (cancelled)

6. (cancelled)

7. (cancelled)

8. (previously presented) A scabbard comprising:

a carrier having a generally C-shaped cross section, a rear wall and top and bottom, the top and bottom being open such that different length batons can be placed therein;